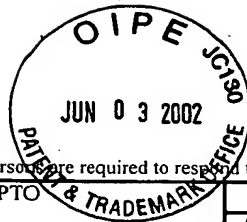


Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → [ + ]



PTO/SB08A (10-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002 OMB 0651-0031  
Patent and Trademark Office; U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no person is required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

SHEET 1 of 1

### COMPLETE IF KNOWN

Application Number	10/048,079
Confirmation Number	1658
Filing Date	January 24, 2002
First Named Inventor	Yousef Georges Aouad
Group Art Unit	1751
Examiner Name	Not Available
Attorney Docket Number	7696M

### U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	DOCUMENT NUMBER Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
ME	1	US-3,981,826	09-21-1976	Hamish D. Munro	
	2	US-5,759,981	06-02-1998	Boutique et al.	
	3	US-5,814,592	09-29-1998	Kahn et al.	
	4	US-5,872,092	02-16-1999	Kong-Chan et al.	
	5	US-5,945,392	08-31-1999	Boutique et al.	
	6	US-6,165,959	12-26-2000	Meyer et al.	
	7	US-6,207,634	03-27-2001	Meyer et al.	
	8	US-6,239,094	05-29-2001	Goderis et al.	
	9	US-6,277,804	08-21-2001	Kahn et al.	
	10	US-6,281,187	08-28-2001	Mark A. Smerznak	

RECEIVED

JUN 07 2002

TC 1700

### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENT Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
ME	11	WO 98/00518	01-08-1998	Procter & Gamble		
	12	WO 98/00516	01-08-1998	Procter & Gamble		
	13	WO 92/09678	06-11-1992	S B Chemicals Limited		

### OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T <sup>6</sup>
ME	14	TYZACK J, "Applications for atfes-drying and concentration", Chemical Engineering, 15 November 1990, pages 33, 35, 37-38, no. 485, McGraw-Hill, Albany, NY	
EXAMINER	Margaret Einsmann		
	DATE CONSIDERED 9.15.02		

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kind Codes of U.S. Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, D.C. 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.